

TAM 506 (Introductory Tamil-I)

Instructor: Sankaran Radhakrishnan PhD

Email: radha@mail.utexas.edu

Meeting hours and place: 12.30-2.00 On T Th at MEZ 2.102

Office hours: at WCH 5.136

Course Description:

TAM 506 provides first year training in Tamil-I (First Semester). The class meets five hours per week and carries five hours of credit. Tamil alphabets will be introduced for 16 hours in the first 16 classes and introduction to Tamil language, land, traditions, socio-cultural importance, traditions of grammar, religions, literatures etc., are for two hours. While learning Tamil alphabets, also the learners will learn to speak in Tamil and they are introduced to Tamil language structure patterns. After 18 hours of classes, learners are thorough with alphabets and know considerable number of Tamil words. They are able to write and read Tamil. Daily, there will a dictation (5-10 words) in the classroom for students. Learning Tamil continues in Tamil for the rest of the semester. Drill practice, reading, speaking etc. will be done in the following classes after introduction of a theme (through a lesson). Usually, one hour per week will be devoted to introduction, one hour for reading and conversation;, one hour listening and drills of various kinds and revision. See the schedule of activities for more details.

The course aims at developing proficiency in the four basic skills of language learning: namely, writing, reading, listening and speaking. The book on the script aims at imparting proficiency in the writing and reading skills of Tamil and vocabulary development. The course-pack materials aimed at imparting proficiency in listening and speaking and Tamil culture extensively. Classroom discussions about the aspects of language and culture make the learning more interesting and fun. The materials cover the basic structures of Tamil used for certain identified topics of common interest. Lessons are presented in the form of conversations. Audio, video support materials like the lessons on audiocassettes with drills, movie clips/movies, pictures will be used in the class.

Objectives:

At the end of the course students should be able to:

I Perceive and reproduce the sounds and their meaningful sequences, that is:

- Identify the sounds in their meaningful sequence,

- Discriminate the sounds in meaningful sequence,
- Reproduce the sounds in meaningful sequence.

II Form sentences orally from given patterns and lexical items.

Speak with the professor and fellow students on specified topics under controlled situations.

Materials: (authored by S. Radhakrishnan)

1. **Tamil Script Book**
2. **Course-pack**

Introduction to Tamil language, cultures, land, literatures, religion, etc., Feed Back, Tamil alphabets in 18 Frames, List of vocabulary and more.

Tamil Pronunciation

Read Faster

Pictorial Learning

There may be some more additional Xeroxed materials for class-work, reading, listening- comprehension, dictation, and pictorial learning in the class.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend every class meeting in TAM 506. Class attendance is mandatory for all classes

Grading: Weights assigned to each activity are as follows:

Attendance: (72x4)	288
Homework:	142 (in the very next day as and when the lessons are completed)
Conversation/Participation	100 (throughout the semester)
Week Tests (6x20)	120(a week before the dates will be announced)
Exams (3x100)	300 (one in Sept. next one in Oct. and the last in Nov. Dates will be announced later)

Total	1000
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(This total will be worked out for 100 for final grade)

Good wishes

Detailed tentative day to day activities will be placed on Blackboard on the first day of the class.